COMMUNICATION (COMM)

COMM 1311  Foundation of Communication
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
This course examines a breadth of topics fundamental to the study of communication and works to improve students’ communication skills in three primary contexts: interpersonal relationships, group/teamwork, and presentational speaking.
TCCNS: SPCH 1311

COMM 1315  Public Speaking
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Research, composition, organization, and delivery of speeches for various purposes and occasions, with emphasis on listener analysis and on informative and persuasive techniques.
TCCNS: SPCH 1315

COMM 1318  Interpersonal Communication
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Predominant issues related to verbal and nonverbal communication with a focus on interpersonal relationships.
TCCNS: SPCH 1318

COMM 1321  Business and Professional Communication
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Introduces students to basic skills, principles, and contexts of communication in business and professional settings by combining public speaking with aspects of communication ethics and organizational, small group, and interpersonal communication. Students will learn practical skills via presentations, research, resumes, interviews, meetings, and professional writing grounded in communication theory.

COMM 1342  Voice and Diction
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Basic voice training, including techniques for vocal production, manipulation, and control. Practical application of the vocal apparatus will be emphasized, including techniques of enunciation, projection, articulation, and the use of dialects. (Credit may not be given for both this course and THEA 1342.)
TCCNS: SPCH 1342

COMM 2330  Introduction to Public Relations
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
An exploration of the history and development of public relations including the theory and process of public relations, and the various publics and careers associated with the public relations industry.
TCCNS: COMM 2330

COMM 2333  Small Group Communication
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Application of small group theories and techniques as they relate to group process and interaction.
TCCNS: SPCH 2333

COMM 2335  Presentational Communication
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Advanced study of the principles and methods of formal presentations for various purposes and audiences to further develop students into effective communicators. Course assignments will include various special occasion speeches, dynamic instructional speeches, extemporaneous speaking, creation of effective visual aids, and a group community action presentation.

COMM 3310  Communication Theory
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
The foundations, processes, and effects of human communication. A survey of contemporary theory and research, including language theory, nonverbal and small group communication, persuasion, and mass communication.

COMM 3311  Nonverbal Communication
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
The study of body movement, touch, paralanguage, space, environment, and other nonverbal factors in the communication process.

COMM 3325  Relational Communication
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
This course is an advanced interpersonal communication course that focuses on communication within relationships, such as family, romantic, friendship, and workplace relationships.
Prerequisite: COMM 1318.

COMM 3326  Research Methods
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
The purpose of this course is to increase student’s knowledge of the research process used in the Communication Studies discipline. Specifically, the course will allow students the opportunity to learn the goals of communication research and scrutinize various techniques for creating academic research and assessing academic knowledge.

COMM 3330  Persuasion
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Various theories and forms of rhetorical persuasion. Topics include practical reasoning skills, psychological theories of persuasion, and critical responses to persuasive messages.

COMM 3331  Public Relations Writing and Design
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
This course will introduce students to the basic principles and formatting requirements for public relations writing. Students will gain theoretical and practical experience in developing content for specific audiences.

COMM 3335  UIL Debate and Speech
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Understanding the University Interscholastic League debate and speech events. Students explore approaches to analytical reasoning, research delivery, and the conceptual basis for debate and gain practical experience in understanding and judging UIL in the high school setting.

COMM 3350  Leadership
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
focuses on the communication of influence that takes place to achieve goals or encourage change. Specific attention will be devoted to a variety of approaches, processes, and theories that will provide students general knowledge of leadership.

COMM 4314  Gender Communication
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Examination of communication about women and men, as well as communication between them. Special course emphasis on explanations of gender, sexist language, media depiction of the sexes, and gender communication in the formation of social and work relationships.
COMM 4315  Communication and Sexuality  
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)  
This course will focus on communication and sexuality, specifically exploring sex and gender identity development and expression, intersections of race/ethnicity and sex/gender, how communication impacts various types of relationships, the role of communication in sexual activity, and power abuses related to sexual activity, with specific focus on consent and sexual safety.

COMM 4331  Public Relations Campaigns  
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)  
An application of the public relations process (including primary and secondary research, goals and objective development, the selection of proper strategies and tactics for implementation, and an evaluation of campaign effectiveness) through the production and presentation of a public relations campaign for a local organization.

Prerequisite: COMM 2330.

COMM 4335  Crisis Communication  
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)  
An application of crisis communication (including organizational research, risk and vulnerability assessment, strategic communication, and performance and damage evaluation) through the development and presentation of a crisis communication plan for a local organization.

COMM 4345  Intercultural Communication  
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)  
An investigation of the process by which persons and groups of different cultural backgrounds create understanding. Types of knowledge, skills, and sensitivity necessary for intercultural communication are developed.

COMM 4350  Organizational Communication  
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)  
Examination and exploration of realistic applications of communication theories within the framework of an organization. Particular attention will be given to techniques for diagnosing communication problems, as well as strategies for effecting change in communication.

COMM 4360  International Leadership  
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)  
Study of international leadership in the context of communication and in multi-cultural and diverse settings. Influence of global economy, politics, social values in international leadership.

COMM 4380  Senior Seminar in Communication Studies  
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)  
This course serves as the capstone for the Communication Studies degree. It offers students opportunities to synthesize information learned in other Communication courses and demonstrate abilities to think critically, conduct independent research linked to appropriate communication theories, create individual and collaborative projects that demonstrate effective use of communication strategies, and present written and oral work at an advanced level.

Prerequisite: (COMM 2335, 3310 and 3326).

COMM 4390  Topics in Communication Studies  
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)  
Study of specialized topics and themes in communication studies. May be repeated when topics vary.

COMM 4394  Professional PR Portfolio  
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)  
Students prepare documents, explore strategies for enhancing their marketability, and assemble a professional portfolio of public relations work.

Prerequisite: COMM 2330, MEDA 2350, COMM 4331 and 4335.